

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the present discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-9, 14-17, and 19 are currently pending, Claims 1, 17, and 19 having been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification, for example, on page 44, line 1 to page 49, line 20. Thus, no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 14, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,623,140, hereinafter “Yeh”) in view of Miyamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,496,278, hereinafter “Miyamoto”), Hung (U.S. Patent No. 7,676,142), and Nakayama (JP 2003-259213); Claims 5, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeh in view of Miyamoto, Hung, Nakayama, and Jetha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,661,426, hereinafter “Jetha”); and Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeh in view of Miyamoto, Hung, Nakayama, and the 1984 publication “Structured Computer Organization” by Tanenbaum (hereinafter “Tanenbaum”).

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection, as Claim 1 recites novel features not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references. Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,

a reproducing unit configured to reproduce the content data from a recording medium;

a determining unit configured to determine whether the content data being currently reproduced from the recording medium includes one of a first moving picture, a second moving picture, presentation graphics data, and interactive graphics data, and provides the content data being currently reproduced to one of a first plane memory, a second plane memory, a third plane memory, and a fourth plane memory based on the determination;

the first plane memory configured to store the first moving picture data reproduced from the recording medium;

the second plane memory configured to store the second moving picture data reproduced from the recording medium;

a selection means for selecting at least one of an output of the first plane memory and the second plane memory on a pixel-by-pixel basis;

a reducing unit configured to reduce a size of the first moving picture or the second moving picture;

the third plane memory configured to store the presentation graphics data reproduced from the recording medium;

the fourth plane memory configured to store the interactive graphics data reproduced from the recording medium.

Applicants submit that Yeh and Miyamoto fail to disclose or suggest at least these features of Claim 1.

Yeh describes a system for generating a composite output image based upon multiple input images from different sources. (See Yeh, column 3, lines 25-26). Yeh shows, in Figure 1, the system 100 including an analog video stream input 151 via a decoder 101; a separate composite digital video stream input 155 via a decoder 109; separate graphics and text data input from an external source such as the internet 117 via a modem 113; and a video, graphics, and audio display processor (VGDP) 101. (See Yeh, column 3, lines 47-65). Yeh shows, in Figure 2, the VGDP 101 including a video/graphics composting unit (VGC) 221 which can composite up to four planes of graphics/video objects output an image. (See Yeh, column 7, lines 55-62; and Figure 2). Yeh further shows, in Figure 4, an example of the four planes including a background 401, a scaled video 403, scaled graphics 405, and a cursor 407. (See Yeh, Figure 4).

The Office Action appears to assert that the background 401, the scaled video 403, the scaled graphics 405, and the cursor 407 of Yeh respectively correspond to “a first plane

memory,” “a second plane memory,” “a third plane memory,” and “a fourth plane memory,” as defined in previously presented Claim 1. (See Office Action, page 3). Yeh describes that a video scaler and capture (VSC) unit 205 receives the two video streams input 151, 155 and downscales the video, and that after the video data and graphics data are processed by the VSC 205 and the GA 201, respectively, the data are input to the VGC 221 which composites the four planes of graphics and video objects to output the image. (See Yeh, column 7, lines 55-62; and Figure 2).

However, Yeh merely describes the system 100 receiving multiple inputs including the analog video stream input 151, the separate composite digital video stream input 155, and the separate graphics and text data input from the internet 117; performing processing on the separate inputs; and outputting a composite image. Yeh does not explicitly describe reproducing content from a recording medium; determining whether the content data being currently reproduced from the recording medium includes one of a first moving picture, a second moving picture, presentation graphics data, and interactive graphics data; and providing the content data being currently reproduced to one of the background 401 (i.e., as the asserted first plane memory), the scaled video 403 (i.e., as the asserted second plane memory), the scaled graphics 405 (i.e., as the asserted third plane memory), and the cursor 407 (i.e., as the asserted fourth plane memory) based on the determination.

The Office Action acknowledges that Yeh does not disclose the “details of the circuitry required to supply the various types of images to the image plane memories (@ 401, 403, 405, 407) of Figure 4 (i.e. does not disclose the circuitry required for scaling the scaled video signal & does not disclose the signals as being provided from a recording medium)”. (See Office Action, page 3).

The Office Action relies on Miyamoto to remedy the deficiencies of Yeh with regard to previously presented Claim 1. (See Office Action, page 4).

Miyamoto describes an apparatus for reproducing images stored on a memory card M on a television in a slide format by using multiple planes. (See Miyamoto, column 1, lines 34-67). Miyamoto shows, in Figure 11, the apparatus including a video memory 107 which includes a moving image plane 1109, a still image plane 1110, a character and graphic plane 1112, and a subtitle plane 1113. (See Miyamoto, column 9, lines 32-35; and Figure 11).

The Office Action appears to assert that the moving image plane 1109, the still image plane 1110, the subtitle plane 1113, and the character and graphic plane 1112 of Miyamoto respectively correspond to the “first plane memory,” the “second plane memory,” the “third plane memory,” and the “fourth plane memory,” as defined in previously presented Claim 1. (See Office Action, page 4). Miyamoto describes that a scaling processing unit 1102 changes a size of decoded image data read from the memory card M and that a writing control unit 1101 controls the writing of image data for each plane of the video memory 107 such that the digital image data used for slide reproduction are written into the still image plane 1110, the moving image plane 1109, and the character and graphic plane 1112. (See Miyamoto, column 9, lines 20-31).

However, Miyamoto merely describes reading the digital image data from the memory card M, scaling the image data, and writing the scaled image data to all of the still image plane 1110, the moving image plane 1109, and the character and graphic plane 1112. Miyamoto does not explicitly describe reproducing the image data (i.e., as the asserted content data) from the memory card M (i.e., as the recording medium), determining whether the image data (i.e., as the asserted content data) being currently reproduced from the memory card M (i.e., as the recording medium) includes one of a first moving picture, a second moving picture, presentation graphics data, and interactive graphics data, and providing the content data being currently reproduced to one of the moving image plane 1109 (i.e., as the asserted first plane memory), the still image plane 1110 (i.e., as the asserted

second plane memory), the subtitle plane 1113 (i.e., as the asserted third plane memory), and the character and graphic plane 1112 (i.e., as the asserted fourth plane memory) based on the determination.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Yeh and Miyamoto do not disclose or suggest “a reproducing unit configured to reproduce the content data from a recording medium; a determining unit configured to determine whether the content data being currently reproduced from the recording medium includes one of a first moving picture, a second moving picture, presentation graphics data, and interactive graphics data, and provides the content data being currently reproduced to one of a first plane memory, a second plane memory, a third plane memory, and a fourth plane memory based on the determination; the first plane memory configured to store the first moving picture data reproduced from the recording medium; the second plane memory configured to store the second moving picture data reproduced from the recording medium; a selection means for selecting at least one of an output of the first plane memory and the second plane memory on a pixel-by-pixel basis; a reducing unit configured to reduce a size of the first moving picture or the second moving picture; the third plane memory configured to store the presentation graphics data reproduced from the recording medium; the fourth plane memory configured to store the interactive graphics data reproduced from the recording medium,” as recited in Claim 1.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that Yeh and Miyamoto fail to disclose or suggest or make obvious the pending claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection based on Yeh and Miyamoto is respectfully requested for at least these reasons.

Hung, Nakayama, Jetha, and Tanenbaum have been considered but fail to remedy the deficiencies of Yeh and Miyamoto with regard to Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Yeh, Miyamoto, Hung, Nakayama, Jetha, and Tanenbaum, either alone or in proper combination.

Additionally, although differing at least in scope, independent Claims 17 and 19 recite features similar to that of Claim 1 discussed above. Thus, Applicants submit that Claims 17 and 19 patentably distinguish over Yeh, Miyamoto, Hung, Nakayama, Jetha, and Tanenbaum, either alone or in proper combination.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. D. Lytle', is written over a horizontal line.

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